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A TRIBUTE TO DR. STUART W. FROST

Memorial Service Kech Funeral Home, State College, PA January 23, 1980 - 8:80 P.M



Ladies and gentlemen, we come together here this evening not to grieve but rather to pay a tribute to the memory of one of our beloved friends and colleagues, Dr. Frost, who just departed us to the eternity. He was a man of scientific work and the family. He was always concerned about Mrs. Frost, Miss Frost, and his son, Stuart, and tried to make them comfortable although he had some physical discomforts of his own. As all of us recall, he gave his strong opinion on many issues, social and political, and yet never criticized anyone. He was devoted to his profession and never wasted a minute. He always organized and continuously wrote about his findings, and never ceased to plan his next project. Last week he was talking about his next paper on Elderberry insects. Dr. Frost was a fine gentleman of high honor, a captivating naturalist and scholar of high intellect, and a tirelessly productive scientist. His last paper on Elderberry insects just published in the December issue of THE FLORIDA ENTOMOLOGIST (vol. 62, No. 4, p. 341-55, 1979) is a testimony of his scientific dedication. He enjoyed people whether they were young children visiting the Museum, graduate students, or fellow entomologists. He was always ready to listen and give his expert opinions on frequent questions and inquiries about insects. spiders, frogs, and birds; he was literally a living encyclopedia on natural history. When you asked him a question, however trivial it might be, he would stop whatever he was doing and spend hours explaining or digging out information. Of his more than 200 scientific papers and 4 books, his book entitled INSECT LIFE, initially published in 1942 and revised in 1959, has been read widely and is still an important resource book for the biology and habits of insects.

It was my good fortune to have closely worked with Dr. Frost since I came to Penn State in 1968 We worked closely together to develop and expand the insect collections of The Frost Entomological Museum. About a year after I came to State Col. lege, Dr. Frost took time to explain the past condition of insect collections without much bitterness or anger but rather with some gratitude and optimism. he was not a man of criticism. In hindsight, I am glad I did not repeat our common mistake by either neglecting to recognize or belatedly recognizing his significant contributions after his death. With the strong support of Dr. B. F. Coon and the Entomology faculty, we succeeded in naming the insect collections after Dr. Frost in 1969. I vividly remember how happy he was. He kept working from 7:30 to 11:30 every morning and attempted to attend every Museum Bag Lunch. He has contibuted greatly to curatorial activities of the Museum. Dr. Frost inspired all of us in the Museum and gave us a model of what productive academic and professional life is supposed to be. Those who knew Dr. Frost loved him and respected him. Dr. Frost now rests in peace, but his inspiration, intellect and warmth remain with us. His sterling qualities and his great contributions live on.

Finally, to Dr. Frost. Dr. Frost, we will miss you very much. Your daily inspiration and dedication will be our loss. However, my fond memory will keep me and my students from wasting precious minutes. We will try to be as productive and dedicated as you were. Again, I want to thank you for all you have done for us in the Museum and at the University. Your intellect, dedication and scientific zeal will remain with me as long as I live. God bless you and give you a wonderful rest in peace. Good Night!

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